

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

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C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 0837

LIMDIS

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TAGS: OREP (STEVENSON, ADLAI E.) EFIN PL
SUBJ: PZPR SECRETARY RYSZARD FRELEK'S COMMENTS TO SENATOR
STEVENSON ON POSSIBLE IMF MEMBERSHIP

REF: WARSAW 692

1. RYSZARD FRELEK, THE SENIOR COMMUNIST PARTY OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TOLD SENATOR STEVENSON ON JANUARY 17 THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF POLAND COULD SEEK SOME FORM OF "ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP" IN THE IMF. FRELEK SAID THE GOP WOULD WANT TO BECOME A FULL MEMBER "WITHIN THE NEXT FEW YEARS", BUT THIS STEP WAS NOT NOW POSSIBLE. HE ADDED THAT THE EC'S REFUSAL TO GRANT POLAND FULL RIGHTS OF GATT MEMBERSHIP HAD CAUSED POLISH LEADERS TO QUESTION WHETHER THEY COULD EVER EXPECT TO RECEIVE FULL IMF PRIVILEGES. HE ALSO INDICATED SOME CONCERN THAT IMF MEMBERSHIP MIGHT EFFECT ADVERSELY POLAND'S ACCESS TO "EASY" BILATERAL CREDITS FOR FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

2. SENATOR STEVENSON SAID THAT, PARTICULARLY IN THE CASE OF USG LOANS, IMF MEMBERSHIP WOULD COMPLEMENT RATHER THAN IMPEDE POLAND'S EFFORTS TO ATTRACT BILAT-
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ERAL GOVERNMENT CREDITS. HE SAID IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO EXAMINE THE QUESTION OF ASSOCIATE IMF MEMBERSHIP FOR POLAND. THE SENATOR SAID IMF DIRECTOR WITTEVEEN HAD TOLD HIM THAT A POLISH APPLICATION TO JOIN THE FUND WOULD RECEIVE WIDE SUPPORT.

3. THE UNCLEARED MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION OF THIS

MEETING IS BEING SENT TO EUR/EE.
DAVIES

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NNN

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